

PLACE NAMES AND STORIES

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should allow your right hand to be cut
off." "Yes."
"If it is flawed I shall have my right hand
cut off."
"As you please." The sculptor then put
the chisel
against the navel of the image and gave a
blow with
the hammer. The stone came off in a flake
and within
was a small cavity with a little water and
a tiny frog
in it. The older sculptor was astonished and
embraced
the youngster in admiration and asked
whose son he
was. He said, "I am the son of Jakkana,
the great
sculptor". The man scrutinised his features
and said,
"And where are you going?" "I am going
in search
of my father." "You have found him then,"
said the
sculptor, "for I am Jakkana." Father and
son
embraced each other and Jakkana enquired
about the
household and then said that he should cut
off the right
hand. The son and other people tried to
dissuade him.
He said, "I have said it and must do it".
The hand
was cut off. Then the father or son dreamt
that they
should go back to their village and build a
temple there
and that then the father would get his
hand back.
They did accordingly and built the temple at
the village
near Tumkur, now called Kaidala.
Jakkanachari got
his hand again and lived to build many
more temples
with the assistance of his gifted son.

This kind of story in which a son goes
in search
of his father is common among folk-stories.
So too is

the story of a king who has lost his way
and receives
food from some poor old woman and is
discovered later
to be the king. A story of this kind is told
about
Bangalore which, in Kannada, is called
"Bengaluru".
Once upon a time, we are told, a prince
lost his way
and came to this spot and received some
parched beans